**Exchange appointments and expenses claims**

The Society has for very many years organised Exchange appointments for our referees with other counties. These are intended to broaden referees’ experience of rugby and assessors’ advice from other parts of the country. We almost always make these appointments in pairs with the intention that the referees travel together to the host county, to learn more about each other’s experience of how they balance work, family and refereeing and, on the return journey, to share their experiences of the day’s rugby.

With this in mind, and to conserve the Society’s precious resources, the Society reimburses in full one of the two referee’s expenses, and any expense involved by the other referee in getting to a sensible meeting point on the way. Expenses may be claimed, from the Society’s Hon Treasurer, by email, simply by detailing the fixture, with whom you travelled, and the mileage.

There are occasions, perhaps due to the lack of proximity of the fixtures offered by the host county, or possibly one of our appointees lives in London, when it is clearly not logical for our referees to travel together. If that is clearly the case then, this may be communicated to them at the appointment stage, but if it is not, then it is the responsibility of both referees to obtain clearance for separate travel from either the Appointments Secretary (currently David Beglan) or the Hon Treasurer (currently David Tree, davidgtree@outlook.com, 01273832553 or 07971105730). A referee can check the identity of his fellow appointee on Who’s The Ref.

A referee may choose to take the opportunity, when visiting another county to look up friends or relations, but if, as a result, this precludes him from sharing travel then he will not be reimbursed (but the other referee will be).